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K'UN MING EDITOR DISCUSSES  
SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

The Sino-Russian treaty of friendship of 1945 is the most important treaty for China in 20 years. It means 100 years of Sino-Soviet friendship and the cultivation of China's hopes.

The past 260 years of Sino-Russian relations saw many regrettable incidents. Imperialist Russia took away much of China's territory and encroached seriously upon her political and economic sovereignty.

The British-American open-door policy prevented the partitioning of China at the close of the 19th Century.

After the Russo-Japanese war, those two countries made a number of secret treaties regarding the partitioning of Mongolia and Manchuria. Fortunately the Soviet government came into power and repudiated all predatory treaties made by the Czar's government. The young Soviet government, beset by enemies from without and within, found a sympathetic friend in China, which was confronted by similar difficulties.

In 1919-20 Karakhan proclaimed repudiation of the Sino-Russian unequal treaties and cessation of the Boxer indemnity and sought a treaty with China. The Pei-ching (Peking) authorities and meddling foreign countries discouraged friendly relations.

Later the Soviet Union helped the KMT get started in Kuang-chow (Canton). The Pei-ching authorities retaliated by arresting Pei-ching students as Communists. The Soviet Union broke off relations.

Later on relations with the KMT were suspended as a result of the purge in that organization. The 1929 war in Manchuria was a most regrettable incident. Since 1932 Sino-Soviet relations have been on an even keel.

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After the invasion by Japan, while America and Britain looked idly on, or openly helped Japan with military raw materials, the Soviet Union was actively helping China. During the latter phases of that war some questions arose in Sino-Soviet relations, but their common enmity to Japan, and Roosevelt's aid at Yalta resulted in the treaty of friendship of 1945.

Later, in following America's lead, China failed to observe the spirit of the treaty and began to regard the Soviet Union with less than cordial friendship.

Her many setbacks may result to some extent from this perfidy.

China, in seeking to be freed from semicolonial and semifeudalistic status must complete the democratic revolution and work together with all progressive countries. Sun Yat-sen foresaw this, but his successors in the KMT foiled his plans and looked upon the Soviet Union as the source of Communistic imperialism. In spite of this, the Soviet Union's attitude has been one of helpfulness with no ulterior motives such as those of the United States and other countries. China must cooperate with the Soviet Union for safety and prosperity.

America is supporting the recrudescence of Japan, which in turn is bringing on a great crisis. China and the Soviet Union in cooperation can foil America's plans. China must raise her sights and realize the advantages of this treaty of friendship.

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